

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please cancel claims 15-16 and amend claims 1-14 and 17-20 in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) A method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition, comprising:

~~obtained by~~ feeding to an extruder and melt-kneading a polyamide₁; a polyphenylene ether₂; and a hydrogenated block copolymer prepared by hydrogenating a block copolymer comprising at least one polymer block mainly composed of an aromatic vinyl compound and at least one polymer block mainly composed of a conjugated diene compound,

wherein said hydrogenated block copolymer ~~to be fed~~ to the extruder has a packed bulk density of 0.15 ~ 0.25 g/cm³.

2. (currently amended) The method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 1, wherein said hydrogenated block copolymer ~~to be fed~~fed to the extruder has a compressibility represented by the formula: $C=(1-A/P) \times 100$ wherein C denotes compressibility [%]; P denotes packed bulk density [g/cm³]; and A denotes aerated bulk density [g/cm³], ranging from 5 to 25%.

3. (currently amended) The method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 2, wherein said hydrogenated block copolymer ~~to be fed~~fed to the extruder has a compressibility of from 5 to 18%.

4. (currently amended) The method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 1, wherein said hydrogenated block copolymer ~~to be fed~~fed to the extruder has a packed bulk density of from 0.20 to 0.25 g/cm³.

5. (currently amended) The method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 1, wherein said hydrogenated block copolymer has a number average molecular weight of from 200,000 up to 300,000.

6. (currently amended) The method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 1, wherein said hydrogenated block copolymer is a block copolymer having a block structure of a polystyrene block-a polyethylenebutylene block-a polystyrene block.

7. (currently amended) The method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 1, further comprising a compatibilizer for a polyamide and a polyphenylene ether.

8. (currently amended) The method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 7, wherein the compatibilizer is one or more selected from the group consisting of maleic acid, fumaric acid, citric acid and anhydrides thereof.

9. (currently amended) The method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 1, further comprising an electroconductive carbon filler.

10. (currently amended) The method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 9, wherein the electroconductive carbon filler is one or more selected from the group consisting of electroconductive carbon black, carbon nanotube, carbon fibril and carbon fiber.

11. (currently amended) The method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 9, wherein the electroconductive carbon filler is one or more selected from the group consisting of electroconductive carbon black, carbon nanotube and carbon fibril.

12. (currently amended) The method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 9, wherein the electroconductive carbon filler is added in the form of a polyamide masterbatch in which the electroconductive carbon filler is contained in the polyamide in advance.

13. (currently amended) The method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 12, wherein the amount of the electroconductive carbon filler in the polyamide masterbatch is from 5 to 25% by mass on the basis of the mass of the polyamide masterbatch.

14. (currently amended) The method for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 12, wherein the polyamide masterbatch is a masterbatch obtained by melting all or part of the polyamide, and then adding the electroconductive carbon filler and melt-kneading the resulting mixture.

15-16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein said hydrogenated block copolymer is fed to the extruder by using a feeder different from that used for feeding the polyphenylene ether and the polyamide.

18. (currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 15, wherein said hydrogenated block copolymer to be fed to the extruder has a compressibility of from 5 to 18%~~ A thermoplastic resin composition obtained by feeding to an extruder and melt-kneading a polyamide, a polyphenylene ether, and a hydrogenated block copolymer prepared by hydrogenating a block copolymer comprising at least one polymer block mainly composed of an aromatic vinyl compound and at least one polymer block mainly composed of a conjugated diene compound, wherein said hydrogenated block copolymer to be fed to the extruder has a packed bulk density of from 0.15 to 0.25 g/cm³.

19. (currently amended) An injection molded article formed from the thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 18.

20. (currently amended) Exterior automobile parts formed from the thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 18.